

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given to the Official Action of December 16, 2005 and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's comments with regards to the Information Disclosure Statement have been noted and attached hereto is a new IDS with the accompanying PTO 1449.

Claim 4 has been objected to and amendatory action has been taken to overcome the objection. The Examiner's recommendation has been adopted and thereby it is submitted that the typographical error has been eliminated.

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph and amendatory action has been taken to correct the lower limit of the recited thickness. The Examiner has assumed the lower limit and this is now confirmed by the amendatory action now taken.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Usui in view of Ogishi.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Usui in view of Ogishi and further in view of Romann.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter from claim 3. Claim 1

has been further amended to clarify the difference between the present invention and the cited references by introducing the limitation that “the cups are coated with the multilayer coating and the injectors are inserted by press fitting in the top layer coated on the cups”.

The characteristic feature of the present invention is described on page 5, lines 23-31.

Herein it is recited:

“A joining part provided with an O ring 15 of an injector 14 was pressed in the cup 12 of the fuel delivery pipe 10 coated with the three-layer film consisting of the plated Zn-Ni alloy film 16, the plated Zn film 18 and the trivalent chromate coating 20 as shown in Fig. 2. Resistance against the insertion of the injector 14 in the cup 12 was lower than that against the insertion of the injector 14 in a conventional cup coated with a coating film having a top hexavalent chromate coating and the injector 14 could smoothly fitted in the cup 12.”

Referring to page 5, line 32 to page 6, line 35 it is seen that the embodiment of the present invention shown in Fig. 5 has significant advantageous effect compared with the Comparative examples 1, 2 and 3. (Incidentally, the specification has been amended to correct the term “a plated Zn-Ni alloy film” on page 6, line 20 to “a plated Zn film”. This is clear and consistent with the description on page 4, lines 7-9.)

The advantageous effect of “a fuel delivery pipe provided with cups in which injectors are inserted by press fitting” in the present invention is realized by the following three layer constitution of the multilayer coating:

“ a plated Zn-Ni alloy film as a bottom layer,

A plated Zn film as an intermediate layer overlying the plated Zn-Ni alloy layer, and
a trivalent chromate layer as a top layer overlying the plated Zn film”.

It can be seen by referring page 5, line 32 to page 6, line 35 that these three layers totally can realize the advantageous effect of the present invention.

Usui ('107) has a thermoplastic resin coating layer 5 as the top layer. Therefore, a zinc-nickel alloy 3 and a chromate layer 4 in Usui cannot suggest the present invention.

Ogishi ('730) discloses neither the relation between “a trivalent chromate layer” nor “ a chromate layer as a top layer”. The cups and injectors of Romann do not cure the deficiencies noted above in Usui and Ogishi and the novel and unobvious result of press-fitting the coated injectors in the coated cups.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims as now presented are in allowable condition and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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